

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An IC card issuance system that issues an IC card by writing issuance data containing identification information specific to the IC card into a memory of the IC card having at least the memory incorporated therein, comprising:

an issuance file which stores each item of issuance data during issuance of the each issued IC card;

an identification information readout command storage section which stores a readout command for reading out said identification information from an issued IC card;

an identification information readout section which reads out said identification information from an issued first IC card by using said identification information readout command storage section;

an issuance data extracting section which extracts from said issuance file issuance data that corresponds to the identification information read out by the identification information readout section; and

a card issuance section which issues a new second IC card identical to said issued first IC card by writing the issuance data extracted by said issuance data extracting section into a memory of an unissued IC card.

2. A system according to claim 1, further

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comprising a reissuing file which stores the issuance data extracted by said issuance data extracting section, said issuance section issuing said second IC card by using the issuance data stored in said reissuing file.

3. A system according to claim 1, wherein said issuance data includes card type information indicating type of each IC card, and said identification information readout command storage section is provided in plurality according to said card type, said system further comprising:

a card type readout command storage section which stores a readout command for reading out said type information from an issued IC card;

a correlation table which stores a correlation between said card type information and said identification information readout command storage sections;

a card type readout section which reads out said card type information from an issued first IC card by using said card type readout command storage section; and

an identification information readout command selecting section which selects said identification information readout command storage section that corresponds to the card type information read out by the card type readout section by referring to said

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correlation table.

4. A system according to claim 1, wherein said issuance data includes an issuance flag indicating whether or not a corresponding IC card has been issued, said system further comprising:

a flag rewriting section which rewrites into "unissued" said issuance flag in issuance data that corresponds to the identification information read out by said identification information readout section; and

an issuance instructing section which instructs issuance of the IC card to said issuance section in the case where an issuance flag of the issuance data extracted by said issuance data extracting section indicates "unissued".

5. An IC card issuance system that issues an IC card by writing issuance data containing identification information specific to the IC card into a memory of the IC card having at least the memory incorporated therein, comprising a first issuance system and a second issuance system connected to the first issuance system via a communication line, wherein said first issuance system comprises:

an issuance file which stores each item of issuance data during issuance of the each issued IC card;

an identification information readout command storage section which stores a readout command for

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reading out said identification information from an  
issued IC card;

an identification information readout section  
which reads out said identification information from  
5 an issued first IC card by using said identification  
information readout command storage section;

an issuance data extracting section which extracts  
from said issuance file issuance data that corresponds  
to the identification information read out by the  
10 identification information readout section; and

a first card issuance section which issues a new  
second IC card identical to said issued first IC card  
by writing the issuance data extracted by said issuance  
data extracting section into a memory of an unissued IC  
15 card, and said second issuance system comprises:

a second identification information readout  
command storage section which stores a readout command  
for reading out said identification information from an  
issued IC card;

20 a second identification information readout  
section which reads out said identification information  
from an issued first IC card by using said second  
identification information readout command storage  
section;

25 an identification information transmission section  
which transmits said identification information read  
out by said second identification information readout

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section to said first issuance system via said communication line;

an issuance data receiving section which receives issuance data that corresponds to said transmitted  
5 identification information from said first issuance system; and

a second card issuance section which issues a new second IC card identical to said issued first IC card by writing the issuance data received by said issuance  
10 data receiving section into a memory of an unissued IC card.

6. A system according to claim 5, wherein said issuance data includes issuance count information indicating the count when the corresponding IC card has  
15 been issued, said first issuance system further comprising an issuance count update section which updates issuance count information that corresponds to said identification information transmitted from said second issuance system, and which transmits said  
20 issuance data to said second issuance system.

7. A system according to claim 5, wherein said second issuance system comprises a reissuing file which stores the issuance data received by said issuance data receiving section, said second issuance section issuing  
25 said second IC card by using the issuance data stored in said reissuing file.

8. A system according to claim 5, wherein said

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issuance data includes card type information indicating type of each IC card, and said identification information readout command storage section is provided in plurality according to said card type, and said  
5 second system further comprising:

a card type readout command storage section which stores a readout command for reading out said type information from an issued IC card;

10 a correlation table which stores a correlation between said card type information and said identification information readout command storage sections;

15 a card type readout section which reads out said card type information from an issued first IC card by using said card type readout command storage section; and

20 an identification information readout command selecting section which selects said identification information readout command storage section that corresponds to the card type information read out by the card type readout section by referring to said correlation table.

25 9. A system according to claim 5, further comprising a design selecting section which selects a print image design of a newly issued IC card from a plurality of print image designs different from each other, said card issuance section issuing an IC card

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having the print image design selected by said design selecting section.

10. A system according to claim 5, wherein said second issuance system comprises a type selecting  
5 section which selects a type of a newly issued IC card from at least two types, said card issuance section issuing an IC card of the type selected by said type selecting section.

11. A system according to claim 5, wherein said  
10 second issuance system comprises a card milling section which discards said issued first IC card when issuance of a second IC card by said second card issuance section is terminated.

12. A system according to claim 5, wherein said  
15 second issuance system comprises an issuance count notification section which notifies the IC card's user of said issuance count.

13. An IC card issuance method that issues an IC  
20 card by writing issuance data containing identification information specific to the IC card into a memory of the IC card having at least the memory incorporated therein, comprising:

reading out said identification information from  
an issued first IC card by using said identification  
25 information readout command data;

extracting the issuance data that corresponds to  
said read out identification information from an

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issuance file which stores each item of issuance data during issuance of the each issued IC card; and

issuing a new second IC card identical to said issued first IC card by writing said extracted issuance data into a memory of an unissued IC card.

14. A method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of storing said extracted issuance data as a reissuing file, said issuance step including the step of issuing said second IC card by using the issuance data stored in said reissuing file.

15. A method according to claim 13, wherein said issuance data includes card type information indicating type of each IC card, and said identification information readout command data is provided in plurality according to said card type, said method further comprising the steps of:

reading out said card type information from an issued first IC card; and

selecting said identification information readout command data that corresponds to said read out card type information by referring to a correlation table which stores a correlation between said card type information and said plurality of identification information readout command data.

16. A method according to claim 13, wherein said issuance data includes an issuance flag indicating whether or not a corresponding IC card has been issued,

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said method further comprising the step of rewriting  
into "unissued" said issuance flag in issuance data  
that corresponds to said read out identification  
information, said issuance step including the step of  
5 issuing the IC card in the case where an issuance flag  
of said extracted issuance data indicates "unissued".

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